

ART. III.—*On a Pair of Scissors for the excision of Snake-bite.* By GEORGE B. HALFORD, M.D.

[Read 9th March, 1868.]

Professor Halford exhibited and explained a pair of scissors which had been made under his direction, for the excision of snake-bite, by which the piece of flesh might be cut out immediately after the bite was received. He remarked that all the remedies which he had tried for snake-bite had failed, and as he had read of one or two painful deaths from snake poison in the papers, he thought it became their duty to consider whether they could not provide an instrument which would enable people immediately to cut out the piece, and throw away the poison. The instrument which he submitted could easily hang by the side, and might be carried about by sportsmen, squatters, and others likely to be among snakes. The great recommendation of the instrument was that a man could use it himself. The two blades of the scissors were curved, and they had a point or spike which, when the scissors open, would be driven into the bitten part. As they shut, the scissors pressed this point, which rose, bringing the flesh and skin with it. The blades of the scissors then severed the piece of flesh, and it was thrown away.

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ART. IV.—*On the Application of the Cold, resulting from the Expansion of Compressed Air, to the Preservation of Animal Food.* By Mr. J. DAVY POSTLE, C.E.

[Read by Mr. R. L. J. ELLERY, 20th April, 1868.]

It is generally admitted that in freezing animal food we employ one of the most powerful antiseptic agents known; but though little diversity of opinion can exist upon this point, it is frequently contended that the expenses and the uncertainty, attending the reduction in temperature of a large body of meat on board ship, would preclude the idea of any commercial advantage being derived from an enterprise based upon this process. I shall endeavour in this paper to show that it is possible, by mechanical means, to reduce and to maintain at a temperature considerably below